

NELSON TIFFANY.

MESSAGE

FROM THE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

ASSIGNING REASONS FOR

Withholding his approval of bill H. R. 1337.

JULY 12, 1876.—Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs and ordered to be printed.

To the House of Representatives:

For the reasons set forth in the accompanying report of the Secretary of War, I have the honor to return herewith without my approval House bill No. 1337, entitled "An act for the relief of Nelson Tiffany."

U. S. GRANT.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, July 11, 1876.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, June 7, 1876.

SIR: I have the honor to return House bill 1337, "for the relief of Nelson Tiffany."

The Adjutant-General, to whom the bill was referred, reports as follows:

"Nelson Tiffany, private Company A, Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers, deserted October 10, 1864, and remained absent until April 25, 1865, when he surrendered under the President's proclamation, thereby acknowledging his desertion.

"If this bill becomes a law it will not only falsify the records of this Department, but will be an injustice to every man who served honorably during the war of the rebellion."

I inclose the report (No. 402) of the Senate Committee on Military Affairs in the case.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. D. CAMERON,
Secretary of War.

To the PRESIDENT.

[H. R. 1337. Forty-fourth Congress, first session.]

In the Senate of the United States May 1, 1876.—Read twice and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

An Act for the relief of Nelson Tiffany.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War is hereby authorized and directed to remove the charge of desertion from Nelson Tiffany, late a private in Company H, Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers, and grant said Tiffany an honorable discharge.

Passed the House of Representatives April 29, 1876.

Attest:

GEORGE M. ADAMS,
Clerk.

[Senate report No. 402. Forty-fourth Congress, first session.]

JUNE 20, 1876.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. CLAYTON submitted the following report, to accompany bill H. R. 1337.

The Committee on Military Affairs, having under consideration the bill (H. R. 1337) for the relief of Nelson Tiffany, submit the following report:

We find that Nelson Tiffany was enlisted in Company A, Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers, on the 16th September, 1861, and was honorably discharged on May 15, 1865. He was severely wounded on May 9, 1864, and was sent to hospital at Bermuda Hundreds, from thence to Fortress Monroe, and finally to hospital at New Haven, Conn., from which place he received a furlough from June 17 for thirty days, which was extended to August 7, 1864, and at its expiration he reported to medical director at Boston, and by him sent to Readville, Mass., on 10th October, being directed to report back to New Haven, Conn. He being in a worn-out and broken-down condition from wounds and sickness, believed he would never recover. He returned to his home at Auburn, Mass., and then reported to the provost-marshal at Worcester, Mass., and was by him sent to Fort Independence, and there remained till his discharge, on May 15, 1865. The records show that Tiffany was a faithful soldier, and he is believed now to be upon his death-bed from wounds received in the war. The committee believe, from all the evidence in the case, that Nelson Tiffany never intended to desert, and they recommend the passage of the accompanying bill.